

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior Listings and versions of the claims in the above-identified application.

**Listing of Claims**

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A cysteine variant of interleukin-11 of SEQ ID NO: 17 [[of]] or the mature protein thereof, wherein a cysteine residue is inserted following the last amino acid of SEQ ID NO:17 or the mature protein thereof.

26-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) The cysteine variant according to claim 25, wherein the inserted cysteine residue is modified with a cysteine-reactive moiety wherein the cysteine-reactive moiety is polyethylene glycol.

45-47. (Cancelled)